Supervision of Private Hospitals

1105. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Indian Express dated August 25, 1992 captioned Mushrooming of corporate Hospitals, Urgent Government intervention needed;

(b) what are the steps proposed to regulate private hospitals in an effective manner all over the country;

(c) whether a permanent regulatory body would be established to supervise and to enforce regulations all over the country; and

(d) if not, what steps are proposed to ensure better medical facilities at reasonable rates to the public ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some States and Union Territories have already enacted legislation to regulate the functioning of private hospitals and nursing homes. At some places, the municipalities register and licence nursing homes and are responsible for regulation of their functioning.

(c) and (d) 'Health' being a State subject, it is for each State Government to supervise/regulate the provision of medical facilities in the State including the functioning of private hospitals and nursing homes.

Constitution of a Committee to Review the Nickle contents in Chocolates

1106. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
DR. BAPU KALDATE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the composition of the Committee set up by Government to review the percentage of nickle present in the chocolates manufactured in the country;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its report to Government;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof stating the nickle contents found in the Indian chocolates; how does it compare with the national/international standards; by what percentage the nickle contents exceed the limits prescribed, if any; and

(d) the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) the members of the Committee are :—

1. Dr. S.K. Kashyap *Chairman*
   Director,
   National Institute of Occupational Health,
   Ahmedabad

2. The Director (Food & Agriculture) or Nominee, Bureau of Indian Standards,
   New Delhi

3. The Director or Nominee,
   Industrial Toxicology Research Centre,
   Lucknow

4. Dr. M.C. Saxena,
Director,
Environmental Research Laboratory
Lucknow

5. Dr. S. Gangadharan,
Head, Analytical Chemistry Division, Bhaba Atomic Research Centre,
Bombay

6. Asstt. Director General (PFA)
Convener

7. Any other expert to be nominated by the DGHS or Chairman, if necessary.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Costly AIDS Equipment lying idle in the Doon Hospital

1107. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER :
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that costly AIDS equipment, worth lakhs of rupees supplied to the Doon Hospital under US AID Programme, are remaining idle for more than a year for want of "elisa kit"; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to ensure the supply of this vital equipment to rescue the AIDS Screening Centre from this inadequacy ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) It is a fact that the Doon Hospital had collected the HIV testing kits nearly seven months after collecting the US AID equipments. The kits were available all the time and the delay was entirely due to non-lifting by the concerned institution. This position has been made clear to the hospital authorities and the State Government.

Imported Copper-Ts

1108. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL :
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the amount of money spent annually (in foreign exchange) in importing Copper-Ts by Government;

(b) what is the cost of Copper-Ts (in foreign exchange) the consignment of which were found sub-standard in 1991-92;

(c) whether the consignments of Copper-Ts found sub-standard were sent back to that country; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative the manner in which the sub-standard consignment of Copper-Ts were utilised and the estimated loss incurred as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Since 1992-93, only indigenously assembled Copper-Ts are used in the National Family Welfare Programme.

(b) to (d) Components for assembly of 5.25 million pcs. of Copper-Ts at various stages of assembly costing US $3.1 million were received as commodity assistance as apart of technology transfer agreement by M/s Hindustan Latex Ltd., (a public sector undertaking) through UNFPA from M/s Finishing Enterprises Inc., USA